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which is made also in England, but nothing so good as that which is brought out of Ireland. And the usquebagh is preferred before our aqua vitæ, because the mingling of raisins, fennel-seed, and other things, mitigating the heat, and making the taste pleasant, makes it less inflame, and yet refresh the weak stomach with moderate heat and good relish. These drinks the English-Irish drink largely, and in many families (especially at feasts) both men and women use excess therein."—"neither have they any beer made of malt and hops, nor yet any ale; no, not the chief lords, except it be very rarely."—"But when they come to any market town to sell a car or horse, they never return home until they have drunk the price in Spanish wine (which they call the King of Spain's daughter,) or in Irish Usquebagh, and until they have outslept two or three days' drunkenness." The latter passages prove how little this writer was disposed to praise any thing Irish, had praise been undeserved.

Sir James Ware supposes that ardent spirit was distilled in Ireland earlier than in England. He says, "the English aqua vitæ, it is thought is the invention of more modern times. Yet we find the virtues of usquebagh and a receipt for making it, both simple and compound, in the red book of Ossory, compiled nearly two hundred years ago; and another receipt for making a liquor, then called *nectar*, made of a mixture of honey and wine, to which are added ginger, pepper, cinnamon, and other ingredients." Dr. Ledwich observes, that the early French poets speak of this nectar with rapture, as being most delicious. The Irish distilled spirits from malt in 1590, and imitated foreign *liqueurs*, by adding aromatic seeds and spices, as was practised in France, so early, according to le Grand, in 1313. The Irish *bulcaan*, Rutty tells us, was made from black oats. *Buille*, madness, and *ceann*, the head, intimate the effects of this fiery spirit.

Having now sketched an account of the introduction and use of intoxicating liquors, as far as the few annals preserved have furnished materials for it, as a proper sequel we may notice the consequences of indulgence in these insidious poisons. Fortunate, indeed, were it for mankind, if the history could truly terminate with an account of their introduction, and if there were nothing to be added to complete the subject. But a dismal picture remains to be exhibited of the effects of excessive indulgence. It is the more to be lamented that the power which these stimuli possess over the intellectual economy should be turned to such bad account, when, under proper restrictions, they might have been made conducive to real benefits. From them, rightly administered, the afflicted in mind or body might receive comfort, the desponding might be inspired with hope, and the melancholy elevated into joy. But the limits of moderation are easily surpassed. He who experiences these advantages does not always rest satisfied with their reasonable enjoyment: the cup of bliss continues to be quaffed, but the infused poison throws round him its magic spell. Innocent hilarity gives place to mischievous mirth: good humour and benevolence are converted into causeless quarrel and vindictive rage: the faculties of the man are only recognisable by their perversion: and fortunate for him is it if the progress of crime is arrested by the death-like profundity of apoplectic sleep. How unenviable are his awaking moments!—memory confused with obscure recollections of insult received and outrage committed; the body exhausted and oppressed: and the mind harassed with the terrors of a remorse-stricken conscience. Amidst the repetition of those practices, the springs of health are dried up; an appalling train of diseases derange the functions of the body; the withered frame wastes down into sepulchral tenuity; the grave closes on the victim, and he is remembered only with the contemptuous pity of mankind.

ANNALS OF DUBLIN.

(Continued from p. 175.)

859. Malachy, king of Ireland fought the battle of Drum-moy against the Danes of Dublin, where many of them fell.

865. The son of Gahan defeated the Deans of Dublin, and killed *Odolb Micle*.

871. The Danes of Dublin plundered Munster. Imar, king of the Danes of England and Ireland died.

878. S. Cianan's Church, Duleek, was plundered by the Danes, and many people taken prisoners. But Barith, the chief of these merciless plunderers was afterwards killed and burned in Dublin. This was attributed to a miracle of God and S. Cianan.

885. Flann, the son of Malachy, king of Ireland, was de-

feated in a battle by the Danes of Dublin, where Hugh, son of Connor, king of Connaught, Lergas, bishop of Kildare, and Donogh, son of Maelduin, abbot of Kildelga and other churches, and many others were killed.

890. Gluniarn at the head of the Danes of Dublin despoiled Armagh, partly destroying the great church, and levelling to the ground divers other edifices, and carrying away captive seven hundred and ten of the inhabitants.

897. The Danes were driven from their garrison in Dublin, and out of Ireland by the son of Muiregen, by the Lagenians, and by Maelfinna assisted by the men of Bregia; they fled, leaving many ships behind them.

916. Kildare was plundered by the Danes of Dublin.

917. A furious battle was fought in this year, on the 17th of October, between the Irish and Danes, at Dublin. Imar and Sitric commanded the Danes in this battle. There fell on the side of the Irish, Niall Glundubh, son of Hugh Finliath, who was king of Ireland for three years. Connor O'Maoileachluin, heir apparent to the throne of Ireland. Hugh the son of Eochagan, king of Ulidia, Maolmíth, the son of Flanagan, lord of Bregia, Maolcraoibhe O'Duibhsionnaigh, lord of Oirghiall, Maolcraoibhe, son of Doilghen, lord of Tartan, Ceallach, son of Fogarty, lord of the south of Bregia, Cromman the son of Kinnedy, and many other nobles too numerous to be mentioned.

918. A battle was fought at *Tigh mac Eochy*, in Kinnacta of Bregia by Donchad the son of Flann, son of Malachy, against the Danes, and countless numbers of the Danes fell in it, and the Irish obtained satisfaction for the loss of their chieftains in the battle of Dublin, for there fell in this battle as many of the nobles of the Northmen as the Irish lost of chieftains and plebians in the battle of Dublin.

919. Godfred, grandson of Imar, settled at Dublin, and in a short time afterwards plundered Armagh, with a numerous host, the Saturday before S. Martin's festival, but he spared the churches, the Coledei and the sick. He plundered the country all around—west, as far as Inislabhradia—east, as far as the river Bann, and north as far as Moy-Ulsen; but the party that went northwards were watched and defeated by Murtoigh, the son of Niall, and by Agnert, the son of Murchadh, who killed many of them, but the darkness of the night approaching, the remnant of the Danes escaped.

924. Murtoigh, the son of Neill, and the Ultonians defeated the Danes at the bridge of *Chuan na Cruimther*, on Friday the 28th of December, where eight hundred of the Danes were killed together with their chieftains, Albdarm, the son of Godfred, Aife and Roit.

The other part of the Danes who were stationed at *Ath-Cruithne*, had suffered a week's famine until Godfred, lord of the Danes of Dublin came to their assistance.

923. Faelan, king of Leinster and his son Lorcan were taken by the Danes of Dublin.

925. Godfred and his Danes fled from Dublin, but returned at the end of six months.

928. Godfred with the Danes of Dublin demolished *Derc-Ferna*, where one thousand people were killed.

934. Clonmacnoise was plundered by the Danes of Dublin. Same year Donchad the son of Flann reduced Dublin to ashes.

935. Amlave, the son of Godfred, lord of the Danes, set out from Dublin to *Loch Ribh*, in the month of August, and he carried away thence by force, Amlave Ceanncarach and his Danes, after having destroyed their ships.

The Danes of Dublin fled from their garrison there, and passed over to England.

936. Amlave the son of Godfred returned to Dublin, plundered Kilkullen, and led many captives out of it.

Donchad, king of Ireland, and Muirchertach, having joined all their forces together, marched with a numerous army to Dublin, and laid siege to the garrison; they despoiled and plundered all the possessions of the Danes from Dublin to Athy.

937. The Danes fled from Dublin. This was attributed to the prayers of Macthalus, patron saint of the city.

938. Blacar, the son of Godfred, returns to Dublin.

939. Muirchertach Mac Neill, king of *Oilech* came to Dublin, and the Danes gave him hostages.

940. Clonmacnoise and Kildare were plundered by Blacar, son of Godfred at the head of the Danes of Dublin.

941. Muirchertach na g-Cochall g-Croiceann, son of Neill Glundubh, king of *Oilech*, the Hector, (i. e. the bravest,) of the west of Europe in his time was killed at Ardee by Blacar, the son of Godfred, lord of the Danes of Dublin, on the 26th of March. The Danes on the day after the fall of Muirchertach, plundered Armagh.

942. Dublin was devastated by the Irish, viz. by Congalach son of Maolmítheach, heir apparent to the throne of Ireland, assisted by Braen, son of Maolmorda, king of Leinster, and by Kellach, son of Faelan, heir apparent to the throne of Leinster. They reduced to ashes all their houses, fortifications, ships, &c. led captive their women, sons, plebeians, &c. killed their soldiers, and totally extirpated the Danes, save only a small number who fled in a few ships to Delginis (*Delgenny*).

943. Blacar, one of the chiefs of the Danes was driven from Dublin, and Arnlave, settled there after him.

944. The Danes of Dublin plundered Clonmacnoise, and all the other churches of Meath.

945. Rory O'Cannanan led an army to Slane, and was joined by the Irish and some Danes, viz. by Congalach, son of Maolmethedh, and by Arnlave Cuaran, a Dane. They defeated the Danes of Dublin. In this battle great numbers were killed and drowned.

Scoly O'Hegan, lord of Dartry, Garvey, son of Murray Tanist of Hy-Crimthan, and Hugh, the son of Tiernan O'Ruairc, fell fighting in the thick of the battle. Dublin was this year plundered by Congalach, king of Ireland.

946. Congalach, king of Ireland fought the battle of Dublin against Blacar, son of Imar, lord of the Northmen. In this battle fell Blacar himself and sixteen hundred of his people were killed, wounded or taken prisoners.

948. The round tower of Slane was burned by the Danes this year. The tower at this time was full of relics and religious people, among whom was Caoineacair lecturer of Divinity at Slane, among the relics were the Crozier of Saint Erlama, and the best bell in all Ireland.

A bloody battle was fought this year between the Irish and Danes, that is, between Rory O'Cannanan and the Danes of Dublin on the festival of St. Andrew precisely. In this battle the Danes were defeated with great slaughter; six thousand of their bravest men were left dead on the plain, not reckoning others of inferior note. Rory heir apparent to the crown of Ireland, fell fighting in the thick of this battle. Imar Tanist of the Danes fell also; Godfred, the son of Sitric, and a few men survived.

949. Godfred, the son of Sitric with the Danes of Dublin, plundered Kells, Downpatrick, Ardrebrecan, Tulan, Disirt Kiarain, Kils Kerry, and other churches. They totally devastated Kells, carried away more than three thousand prisoners with gold, silver, and other riches.

In this year the Danes of Dublin were afflicted with scurvy and dysentery,

954. Congalach, king of Ireland, fought a battle against Arnlave, son of Godfred, lord of the Danes of Dublin, in which he himself, with many other Irish chieftains, lost their lives.

959. Lightning which originated in the south-west, passed through Leinster and killed a thousand persons, and some herds in the neighbourhood of Dublin.

960. Sitric Cam (the stooped) set out in his ship to plunder Hy-Colgan, but Arnlave at the head of the Danes of Dublin and the Lagenians checked his design. Arnlave shot him with an arrow through the thigh.

Sitric was routed, and his people slaughtered, but he made his escape by taking flight with his ships.

965. An incursion was made this year by the Danes of Dublin and the Lagenians into Bregia, which they plundered. On this expedition, Carroll, son of Lorcan, heir apparent to the crown of Leinster, was mortally wounded.

976. The Danes of Dublin fought the battle of Biothlann, against the Lagenians, in which were killed Augaire, son of Tuathal, king of Leinster, and Murray, son of Rian, lord of Hy-Kinsellagh, and many others.

977. Donall Claen, king of Leinster, was taken prisoner by the Danes of Dublin.

978. The Battle of Tarah was fought this year, by Malachy, the son of Donall (afterwards king of Ireland), against the Danes of Dublin and of the Islands. In this battle the Danes were defeated and slaughtered; many brave Irish chieftains fell also in the thick of this battle.

Arnlave, after this battle, passed over into Scotland, and died a penitent in Hy-Columbkille.

979. Arnlave, the son of Sitric, chief lord of the Danes of Dublin, went to Hy-Columbkille, on a pilgrimage, where he died a good penitent.

982. The Danes of Dublin plundered Glendalough.

985. Maelkiarn O'Maighne *Comharba* of St. Columbkille, received a most cruel martyrdom from the hands of the Danes of Dublin.

988. Malachy, king of Ireland, fought the battle of Dublin against the Danes, in which he killed a countless number of them. After the battle he laid siege to their garrison for twenty nights, during which time they had no drink but salt water. They surrendered on whatever conditions he wished to receive them. Malachy received them to mercy, on condition that they would pay to the monarch of Ireland *for ever* one ounce of gold for every cultivated garden in their possession.

992. The Danes of Dublin plundered Ardrebrecan, Donaghpatrick, and *Muinbroccain*.

Imar was expelled from Dublin.

993. Sitric, the son of Arnlave was expelled from Dublin.

994. Imar returns to Dublin.

The Danes of Dublin plundered Donaghpatrick.

The ring of Tomar, and the sword of Carolus were forcibly carried away by Malachy, king of Ireland, from the Danes of Dublin.

Imar fled again from Dublin, and Sitric takes his place.

995. Mahon, the son of Carroll, lord of Hy-dun-chadha was killed in Dublin by Maolmorda, the son of Murchad, in revenge for his father.

997. Malachy, king of Ireland, and Brian *Boru*, marched with an army to Dublin, and obtained hostages from the Danes.

Malachy, with the men of Meath, and Brian, with the men of Munster, marched to Dublin, and carried away hostages and much wealth from the Danes.

998. Kildare was plundered by the Danes of Dublin.

In the same year, Malachy, king of Ireland, and Brian *Boru*, marched with an army to Glenmama, where they were met in defiance by the Danes of Dublin; a furious battle was fought, in which the Danes were routed and slaughtered. Amongst the slain were recognized Harold the son of Arnlave, and Coilen the son of Etigen and many others of the nobles of Dublin.

Malachy and Brian proceeded to Dublin, and remained a week there; they carried away thence gold and silver and prisoners, burned the fortress and expelled Sitric, lord of the Danes.

999. The Danes settled again at Dublin, and gave hostages to Brian *Boru*.

1001. Brian *Boru* marched to Dublin, and obtained the hostages of the men of Meath and Connaught.

1012. The Lagenians and Danes waged war against Brian *Boru*; Brian marched against them, and plundered Leinster as far as Dublin.

1014. The Danes of the north and west of Europe were defeated by Brian *Boru*, and by Malachy, king of Meath, in the battle of Cloutarf, near Dublin. For an account of this battle, see our 17th number.

1014. Malachy, king of Ireland, marched to Dublin, at the head of the Southern Hy-Nialls and Hy-Maoldornidh; they burned the fortress and all the houses around it.

1017. Breen, son of Maolmorda, son of Murchad, king of Leinster, was blinded, in Dublin, by Sitric, the Son of Arnlave, who took him by treachery. Breen died for the loss of his eyes.

1018. Sitric, the son of Arnlave, at the head of the Danes of Dublin, plundered Kells; they carried away rich spoils and many captives, and murdered many in the middle of the church.

1021. Ugaire, the son of Dunlaing, king of Leinster, defeated Sitric, the son of Arnlave, and the Danes of Dublin, with great slaughter, at Derge-Mogerog, in the county Wicklow.

1022. Malachy, king of Ireland, defeated the Danes of Dublin, at Athboy, near Tlachtga. The king lived but one month after this battle.

1026. Murtogh, son of Congalach, lord of Ophaly, was killed by the Danes of Dublin.

The Danes of Dublin were defeated the same year at Loch Rein, by Rian, heir apparent to the throne of Temor.

1030. The Danes of Dublin plundered Ardrebrecan, burned two hundred persons in the stone church, and led captive two hundred more.

1033. Reginald, the Son of Imar, lord of Waterford, was killed in Dublin, by Sitric, the son of Arnlave.

Sitric, the same year, plundered and burned Ardrebrecan.

1037. The Danes of Dublin plundered Skreen and Duleek, in Meath.

1045. The Danes of Dublin, under the command of Imar, the son of Harold, slaughtered the Ultonians, in the Island of Rathlin, off the north coast of Antrim. Three hundred

of the Ultonians were killed, together with Randal O'Heochadha.

1052. Maelnambo plundered Fingall, and burned the country from Dublin to Albene. The Danes of Dublin made opposition, and fierce engagements took place outside the fortress of Dublin, where many fell on both sides. Eachmarcach, the son of Reginald, lord of the Danes, fled from Dublin, across the sea, and Maelnambo, assumed the lordship of the Danes.

1070. Murchad, the son of Dermot, son of Maelnambo, lord of the Danes and of Leinster, died in Dublin.

1072. Dermot, son of Maelnambo, king of Leinster, of the Danes of Dublin, and of the Southern half of Ireland, was killed and beheaded in the battle of Odhbbha, on Tuesday, the 7th of the Ides of February. This battle he fought against Connor O'Melaghlín, king of Meath.

1074. Dunan, first archbishop of Dublin, died.

1075. Donall Mac Morogh, king of Leinster and of Dublin, died of three nights sickness.

Mortagh O'Brien took Dublin.

1080. Torlogh O'Brien marched with an army to Dublin, and through Meath; and Melaghlín, attended by the successor of St. Patrick, who carried St. Patrick's crozier, and by the clergy of Munster, submitted to him.

1084. Gillapatrik, bishop of Dublin, was drowned.

1086. Melaghlín, the son of Connor, marched to Dublin, but was defeated by the Danes and Lagenians.

1088. The Danes of Dublin, Wexford, and Waterford, attempting to plunder Cork, were defeated with great slaughter by the *Hy-nechs* of Munster.

1090. Murtoth O'Brien marched through Leinster, at the head of the Momonians and Danes of Dublin, and plundered various districts of it, and also Moybra, as far as Athboy.

1094. The Momonians, under the command of Murtoth O'Brien, expelled Godfrey, lord of the Danes, from Dublin. This Godfrey had ninety ships at Dublin.

1095. A plague raged throughout Europe this year, of which Dönnus, bishop of Dublin, and many other holy bishops and abbots died.

1102. The men of Ireland marched to Dublin this year to give battle to Magnus and the Norwegians, who came to plunder Ireland. They made peace with the Irish for a year. Murtoth O'Brien gave his daughter in marriage to Sicraid, the son of Magnus, with much riches, and precious articles.

1103. The Danes of Dublin were slaughtered by the Irish.

Magnus, king of Norway and of the Islands, who returned this year to conquer Ireland, was killed, and his people slaughtered by the Ultonians.

1105. Donall, the son of Amalgadh, *Ardehcomarba* of St. Patrick, (*Archbishop of Armagh*), went to Dublin this year to make peace between Donall O'Loughlin and Murtoth O'Brien.

1107. Donall, son of Teige O'Brien, was cast in chains by Murtoth O'Brien, in Dublin, but set at liberty soon after.

1115. Donall O'Brien and the Danes of Dublin overthrew the Lagenians, and killed Donchad, lord of Hy-Kinsella. Connor O'Connor, lord of Ophaly, with his son and many others, were killed.

1117. Dermot M'Enna, king of Leinster, died at Dublin.

1118. Torlogh O'Conor marched to Dublin, and rescued Donall O'Melaghlín, the son of the King of Temor from the hands of the Danes, and also obtained hostages from them.

1121. Samuel O'Hangli, bishop of Dublin, died, and Kelach, Comarba of St. Patrick, was transferred to the bishoprick of Dublin.

1126. Torlogh O'Conor mustered an army, by which he conquered Leinster and the Danes of Dublin, and placed his son Conor over them.

1127. The Danes of Dublin carried away the shrine of Columbkille, but restored it to its own church a month afterwards.

J.O.D.

(To be continued.)

COMBUSTION.

Combustion signifies a *burning*, or the decomposition of certain substances called combustibles, accompanied with light and heat. The process of combustion, like various other operations of nature, although subject to our daily examination, is very little known, and few are able to give a rational explanation of it. The various phenomena it exhibits, its

astonishing effects, its infinite uses, and its devastations, have rendered it in all ages a principal object of human attention. Whilst the wants and economy of mankind, have at all times called forth their industry in devising easy methods of lighting and warming their apartments, of preparing their victuals, &c. the calm contemplations of the philosopher have endeavoured to investigate the cause or causes of this wonderful phenomenon. It is natural to suppose that their first ideas must have been extremely incoherent and fanciful, since the present theory, which rests upon the foundation of innumerable experiments, and strict reasoning, is vastly different from any sort of hypothesis that even the wisest philosopher would have been led to form without the light of these experiments. The first plausible theory was formed by STAHL, an eminent writer. The striking difference between bodies combustible and incombustible, induced him to suppose that the combustibles were endowed with a peculiar principle of inflammability, which the incombustibles had not, and to this supposed principle he gave the name of *phlogiston*. According to this supposition, when combustibles were heated to a certain degree, they began to part with their phlogiston, and continued to burn as long as they had phlogiston to lose; after which, they remained in a state of incombustibility; hence in the former state, those bodies were said to phlogisticated. With certain bodies the combustion was attended with a separation of other components, so that afterwards they could not be brought back to their former state by the mere addition of phlogiston; but with other bodies, as the metals, the processes of dephlogistication and phlogistication might be repeated without end. This was long the prevailing theory of philosophers; but though the theory was universally adopted, the existence of the principle upon which it was established could not be proved, for instance, when a piece of *zinc* of a determined weight, was reduced to a calx, the weight of the calx was found to exceed the original weight of the zinc. It was therefore evident that it had acquired something ponderous, and this was utterly repugnant to the phlogistic theory; for by the loss of phlogiston it ought rather to have lost part of its original weight.

A more rational theory, founded on experiments, is now adopted. One of the principal labourers in its investigation was the ingenious but unfortunate Lavoisier. He has clearly proved that during the process of combustion, *oxygen gas* is absorbed by the burning substance, and concentrated; the caloric, being disengaged, passes off in the state of sensible heat, and sometimes with such a portion of light as gives the appearance of red or white heat. From what has been said, it follows, that with a given combustible, the quickness of the decomposition is in proportion to the supply of oxygen, which shows the reason why a fire is increased by blowing common air upon it, and much more by blowing upon it oxygen gas. With certain combustibles, a peculiar process takes place. It is a remarkably slow process of spontaneous combustion. The body, by attracting oxygen from the atmosphere, becomes thereby gently heated, in consequence of which it is capable of uniting with more oxygen; a greater decomposition of the latter ensues, more heat is evolved, and thus the process is gradually accelerated until flame and visible combustion takes place. Such is sometimes the case with hay, and many other substances. The well known mixtures of iron filings and sulphur moistened with a little water is an instance of this sort; for if this mixture be buried a little below the surface of the earth, it will of itself, after a lapse of several hours, burst forth into a state of ignition. This experiment has been generally called the *artificial volcano*.

Though heat is derived, in combustion, from the oxygen gas, the derivation of light is not so evident. It has been for a long time supposed, that this element is also one of the components of oxygen gas; but the observations made respecting the light yielded by several bodies when they are slightly heated, or even spontaneously, and that some of them yield much more light than others, seems to prove that light forms a component principle of most bodies, and that it is evolved from the combustible. It is likely, however, that part of it at least may be derived from oxygen gas.

Ballymena.

J. GETTY.

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